The commission given to the governor makes him almost despotic; he can choose, change, and act without his council. There is to be no house of assembly; the Catholic religion is to be the established one, and all Catholics are eligible to anything upon taking the Quebec oath. Government wishes to keep as near as possible to the Spanish establishment, and, therefore, as there was a vendue master under the Spaniards, there will be one under us.

Everybody agrees that purchases in Trinidad would answer; for it is the finest soil in the world, has scarcely any mountain, and is as large as Jamaica. I hear it is a very healthy island, beautiful and curious in every respect, and of great extent, so that my soul and body will have elbow-room. The place allows of a deputy; therefore, I trust in a couple of years, or less, I may return to pass the remainder of my life In content at Hamsterley.

i-Funchai Roads, January x^th, 1802.

We sailed from Portsmouth on the last day of the year. Our frigate is a fast

sailer, but rolls

i Mr. Swinburne had been appointed commissioner for
the restoration of the Danish islands to the forces of that